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Ninety-five years ago, he set down his views upon the desirability of some form of federation of the British provinces in North America.

"Let the forms and the substance of the British constitution, (he wrote), come to maturity in this part of America.....They (The British North American Provinces) should stand in conscious strength and in the full equipment of self-government as a free people bound by the ties of gratitude and affection."

We have very lately had good reason to rejoice in the conscious strength which enabled us to take our part in the titanic struggle for the world's freedom. It has been a part of our heritage as a nation of free people to have enjoyed for many years what we recognise as the equipment of self-government; and the passing of the years has had the happy consequence of making that equipment full and at the same time flexible enough and adaptable enough to meet the extraordinary demands of war. We must, by every means in our power, strive to keep it so. In all our history as a nation, what I may call a progressive decentralisation of function has been accompanied by a strengthening of the central purpose of our political association. We of ourselves are living witnesses to

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